

This act would bolster voting rights by enlarging the government's capability to respond to voting discrimination.

This piece of legislation is absolutely necessary to ensure the right to vote is had by all Americans, a right our Founding Fathers envisioned from the inception of this great Nation.

The legacy of Congressman Lewis, a dear friend and colleague, and with us in spirit, must be dutifully honored.

The Senate must immediately take up this legislation and pass it to truly fulfill Congress' mandate of serving the people of this Nation.

Despite the immense progress made so far in this administration, there is still work yet to be done.

As the President emphasized last night, we must pass legislation to lower the costs of Pre-K, health care, home-based care, and housing, and to ensure that childcare doesn't cost families more than 7 percent of their income—all by finally making the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share.

He underscored the need to take meaningful action to address the climate crisis and deliver a roadmap to citizenship for immigrant communities.

And as he said, "capitalism without competition is exploitation"—and the Progressive Caucus is similarly committed to taking on corporate profiteering and monopolistic abuse.

President Biden has significant power to effect immediate, meaningful change for people across America, and we urge him to use it aggressively.

The President can use his executive authority to bring down the costs of prescription drugs and stop Big Pharma's price gouging; decrease carbon emissions to fight the climate crisis; cancel student debt and bolster our economy; protect workers' rights and raise their wages; and provide immigration relief and rebuild our refugee system.

In the coming weeks, the Progressive Caucus will release our executive action agenda for the President that details these steps, and more.

"Democrats in the White House and Congress have shown how much we can accomplish in a year.

If we remain steadfast to our commitment to providing relief our communities need, lowering costs, and making life easier for working people, we can deliver."

One step that must be taken to again seek racial justice is the passage of H.R. 40.

H.R. 40 was initially introduced by the late Michigan Representative John Conyers, and I have introduced it in this Congress.

This bill establishes the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans.

The commission shall examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.

The commission shall identify the role of the federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery, forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants, and lingering negative effects of slavery on living African Americans and society.

This bill is the first step in righting the historical wrong that was slavery.

The United States have given reparations to Japanese Americans who were wrongfully interned, The Ottawas of Michigan, the Chip-

pewas of Wisconsin, the Seminoles of Florida, the Sioux of South Dakota, the Klamaths of Oregon, and the Alaska Natives all received some form of reparations from America because of the genocide they underwent.

It is therefore only right that Black people receive reparations because of the history and oppression we have weathered and continue to.

Who are also not strangers to oppression are the Ukrainian people at the bloodied hands of the autocrat Vladimir Putin.

Black Americans underwent violence in the name of fully realizing their democracy, and now Ukrainians are doing the same.

We fought in our own way, and though regrettable, now Ukrainians must as well.

They will persevere, and President Putin will learn that democracy will never falter in the face of cowardice and senseless aggression.

In summation, while much has been done by this Congress, the CPC, and the administration, we must continue to fight and secure a just, equitable, and prosperous future for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### FURTHER MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Further messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Adrian Swann, one of his secretaries.

#### CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO IRAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-98)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2022.

The actions and policies of the Government of Iran continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States.

For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12957 with respect to Iran and to maintain in force comprehensive sanc-

tions against Iran to respond to this threat.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 3, 2022.

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The situation in Venezuela continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13692 with respect to the situation in Venezuela.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 3, 2022.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 321.—An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight".

S. 854.—An act to designate methamphetamine as an emerging threat, and for other purposes.

S. 1543.—An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy.

S. 1662.—An act to increase funding for the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the Food and Drug Administration and for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

S. 3706.—An act to provide for the application of certain provisions of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 for fiscal year 2021.